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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: MERKULOV et al.

Serial No.: 09/777,921

Filed: February 7, 2001

For: ISOLATED HUMAN TRANSPORTER PROTEINS, NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING HUMAN TRANSPORTER PROTEINS, AND USES THEREOF

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: John Ulm

Atty. Docket: CL001103

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

FEB 24 2003

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Response to Office Action

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action issued by Examiner Ulm on October 15, 2002, Applicants request reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the 03/05/2003 ~~following amendments and remarks~~. Due to the weather condition, USPTO was closed on 01 FC:1251 February 18th, 2003. Thus, the present response is extended to February 19, 2003. Please charge the Petition for one-month Extension of time to Deposit Account 50-0970.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the last paragraph at the bottom of page 1 (which wraps around to the top of page 2) with the following paragraph ("Paragraph 1"):

Transporters are generally classified by structure and the type of mode of action. In addition, transporters are sometimes classified by the molecule type that is transported, for example, sugar transporters, chlorine channels, potassium channels, etc. There may be many

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